

Village of Sackets Harbor Board of Trustees
July 14, 2015 6:30 pm
Monthly Meeting Minutes
112 N. Broad Street
Sackets Harbor, NY 13685

Present: Mayor Vince Battista, Trustee John LaDuc, Trustee Daniel Frechette, Trustee Barbara Boulton, and Deputy Mayor Peter Daly. Other officials present: Treasurer James Yuhas, DPW Superintendent, Lonny Reinhardt, Police Chief Coseo.

Mayor Battista called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:30 pm.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

The Board reviewed the minutes of the June 9, 2015 Public Hearing. Trustee LaDuc made a motion to approve the June 9, 2015 Public Hearing minutes; Trustee Frechette seconded the motion. Vote 5 Ayes (Boulton, Frechette, LaDuc, Daly, Battista) 0 Nays.

The Board reviewed the minutes of the June 9, 2015 monthly meeting. Deputy Mayor Daly made a motion to approve the June 9, 2015 Village Board meeting minutes; Trustee Boulton seconded the motion. Vote 5 Ayes (Boulton, Frechette, LaDuc, Daly, Battista) 0 Nays.

MAYOR'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE

July 4th Events – Mayor Battista commended the Village departments for their tremendous work on the July 4th events. The events were flawless, which is due to planning, preparation and effort.

Chris and Lu Ann Cousins – Chris and Lu Ann sent a letter thanking the Village for completing the fence between their house and the Municipal Building which will help keep the playground users off of their property.

Town of Hounsfield Water District #7 – Water District #7 in the Town will extend water lines up to OD Greene and to Hess Road. The Town received Village approval to act as lead agency for the new district.

Miscellaneous Correspondence – The Village Board was also provided with copies of a letter sent by the Mayor to the Post Office regarding parking issues and various letters sent by the Zoning Enforcement Officer regarding lawns. Parcel owners who do not comply with lawn violation letters will have the grass cut at their expense.

OLD BUSINESS

Dock Variance at Liberty Sackets, LLC – Mayor Battista reported that the Village Board tabled the issue after the Public Hearing in June and he is still waiting for the new infrastructure agreement. As a result, the Village Board will hold off on the dock variance and consider it with the infrastructure agreement at a later time.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment Session opened at 6:37 pm.

Eric Constance, West Washington Street, said that he would like the Village Board to consider lifting the Open Container Law for the Can-Am Festival as he thinks it would help local businesses and increase the enjoyment of patrons. He also asked for an update on the waterfront grant. Mayor Battista answered that a feasibility study will soon begin and the selected company is working on a presentation for August.

Mayor Battista said that the Village Board may vote for an Open Container venue. The Village will not assume any liability and the restaurant/bars will have to clean up the area after the event. The Village Board discussed the boundaries of the area and timing. The Mayor noted that the Police will continue to patrol as usual. Eric Constance suggested closing off the street at General Smith Drive so the post office would be accessible, but the Mayor noted that the parade will begin at 11 am and continue until after the post office closes.

Floyd Dame, West Main Street said it is important that no glass containers leave the establishments.

Eric Constance said that if the Can-Am Festival was changed to an all open container venue, it would grow and suggested that all of Main Street be open.

The Village Board discussed the hours of Noon to 9:00 pm on Saturday and Noon to 6:00 pm on Sunday and they asked Chief Coseo for his opinion. Butch said that previous Village Boards had voted against block parties and noted that Atlas would be playing at the Concert on the Waterfront Sunday afternoon, bringing in a fairly large crowd.

George McCulloch, Bay View Drive said that he lives in Kingston, Ontario now and the city maintains an open container area in the downtown section and it is no big deal to go outside with drink cups.

Lonny Reinhardt, DPW Superintendent said that he had a lot of barricades and it would not be a problem for him.

Connie Barone, Bayview Place asked about the impact on merchants that don't sell alcohol and the Mayor replied that patrons will still have full access to all businesses.

Town of Hounsfield Supervisor, Tim Scee agreed that it was a good plan to have walking traffic and noted that Main Street will already be closed at Ambrose on Sunday for the Soap Box Derby.

Deputy Mayor Daly made a motion to block off Main Street from Ambrose to Ray Streets for purpose of controlling traffic and allowing open containers from Broad to Ray Streets. Hours would be Noon to 9:00 pm on Saturday and Noon to 6:00 pm on Sunday; Trustee Frechette seconded the motion. Vote 5 Ayes (Boulton, Frechette, LaDuc, Daly, Battista) 0 Nays.

Mayor Battista asked Eric Constance to speak to the other bar owners about the liability and clean-up.

George McCulloch, Bayview Place and Kingston, said that he was concerned about Christ Church and the \$240,000 raised at the local level for repairs. The Diocese took over Christ Church after the fund raising and it has not put any money into the church. The building is a very important piece of history in Jefferson County and it has been vacant for five years. The Diocese doesn't want to open it up because there aren't enough church members. George would like the Village Board or Heritage Area Director to convince the Diocese to open the church for about four hours on a Saturday to take donations. His concern is that the Diocese will never open the building and we will lose a historic building. He would like someone to reach out to the Bishop and propose that the church is open some hours per week to the public and then maybe the church can be re-established.

George also commented that there was a great presentation at Fort Pike Park and it is great to have it open. George reminded the Trustees that both he and Jay Kramer have come before the Village Board asking that dead trees and a little brush be removed and nothing has been done.

Public Comment Session closed at 7:06 pm.

NEW BUSINESS

Barn Alley parking between Bayard & Ambrose – A resident has requested that no parking signs be placed on Barn Alley between Bayard & Ambrose. Mayor Battista viewed the area with Chief Coseo and agrees that it is a problem for the residents. Deputy Mayor Daly made a motion to have the DPW order and place no parking signs on Barn Alley between Bayard and Ambrose Streets. Temporary signs can be put up immediately; Trustee LaDuc seconded the motion. Vote 5 Ayes (Boulton, Frechette, LaDuc, Daly, Battista) 0 Nays.

Events:

- Concerts on the Waterfront, 10th Mountain Band will perform on August 2nd and has asked that Main Street be closed from Bayard to Ray Streets. Chief Coseo approved the application with comments. Trustee Frechette made a motion to block off Main Street from Bayard to Ray Streets and approve the event with no deposit or fee required; Trustee Boulton seconded the motion. Vote 5 Ayes (Boulton, Frechette, LaDuc, Daly, Battista) 0 Nays.
- The Classic Car and Motorcycle Show will be held on the Visitor Center Lawn on August 8th. Trustee Boulton made a motion to approve the permit for the Classic Car and Motorcycle Show with no deposit or fee required; Trustee LaDuc seconded the motion. Vote 5 Ayes (Boulton, Frechette, LaDuc, Daly, Battista) 0 Nays.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

Deputy Mayor Daly – Deputy Mayor Daly reported that the Sackets Harbor Fire Company will be holding a Chicken BBQ at the Municipal Building on Saturday and begin serving after the parade.

Trustee Frechette – Trustee Frechette said that the LDC held two meeting last month and the Corporation is in great shape. He has a brochure on how the property should be marketed and a new website was created. Trustee Frechette thanked Chief Coseo and Lonny Reinhardt and the DPW for their hard work over the July 4th weekend.

Trustee LaDuc - Trustee LaDuc said that there was no Chamber of Commerce meeting this month and

that the Summer Recreation Program is underway.

Trustee Boulton – Trustee Boulton reported that the Library is busy, hosted a good driving program and is being used for the Summer Recreation Program. They are planning an open house for their new technology and are busy planning this weekend's book, bake sale and Merry Go Round Theater.

She also met with Saratoga Associates for the Waterfront Feasibility Study mentioned earlier in the meeting. She is attending planning meetings for the 18.12 Challenge.

TREASURER'S REPORT, Jim Yuhas

- Treasurer Yuhas said that the June Treasurer's Report includes Village Taxes and water/sewer payments. The Joint Recreation Program has received \$12,500 from the Village and has funds coming in for the summer recreation program. Trustee Frechette moved to approve the June 30th Treasurer's Report; Deputy Mayor Daly seconded the motion. Vote 5 Ayes (Boulton, Frechette, LaDuc, Daly, Battista) 0 Nays.
- Treasurer Yuhas presented Abstract 2 (Vouchers 61-179 for \$243,336.10) and Deputy Mayor Daly moved to pay the bills in the Abstract that have been reviewed by Mayor Battista and Trustee Boulton. Trustee Frechette seconded the motion. Vote 5 Ayes (Boulton, Frechette, LaDuc, Daly, Battista) 0 Nays.
- Trustee Boulton moved to approve the increase of petty cash from \$100 to \$200. Trustee LaDuc seconded the motion. Vote 5 Ayes (Boulton, Frechette, LaDuc, Daly, Battista) 0 Nays.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Lonny Reinhardt, DPW Superintendent

- The sewer plant shut down last weekend and a part has been ordered.
- Earthscapes has been hired to cut lawns for residents in violation. Homeowners will be charged and only one lawn is being presently cut.
- The Pickering Beach Museum roof was replaced this week.
- The DPW is doing a lot of work on the Visitor Center siding in preparation for the painting contractor.
- LED lights have been installed in Market Square Park. The two lights on the left are much brighter and Lonny would like the Trustees to take a look at them. Lonny prefers the lights on the right. The bulbs have a very long life span, but the ballasts cost about \$600 each.
- The water plant is finished, but the intake pipe needs to be replaced. EFC funds are available for this project it needs to be done with the increased demands on the plant.

Gail Gorgen, Visitor Center Manager – nothing to add to the written report.

Kris Dimmick, Bernier, Carr & Associates – Kris Dimmick said that he had initiated work on the water intake pipe report last fall and he has been investigating NYS funds available for water projects. The first step is to complete the engineering report which will be usable for various types of funding should the competitive NYS funding fall through. The study will include determining the size of pipe needed to replace the one hundred year old, twelve inch pipe that is in the lake right now and allow for future growth. The current permit allows for 500 gallons of water per minute and the plant is running at about 400 gallons per minute. The seawall will be affected by work on the water intake pipe. The

Village will be able to put in a different pipe size and then begin the process for a change in the permit as demands increase. Kris asked if he should revisit the engineering report as the funding application is due on September 4th. He will attend some training seminars on Thursday to learn about available grants. Deputy Mayor Daly moved to approve the completion of the engineering report for the water intake pipe replacement project. Trustee Frechette seconded the motion. Vote 5 Ayes (Boulton, Frechette, LaDuc, Daly, Battista) 0 Nays.

Kris provided an update on the Main Street water/sewer project. He said that the archeological study is complete and a SEQR will need to be started with the Village as Lead Agency. Kris has received comments from Lonny on the time line from a few months ago, so Utilities can begin their review. Kris also spoke about advanced design and communicating with residents about trees. Some trees will be taken down due to the construction and plantings will occur when the work is finished. Ray Street has a significantly wide right of way that is much wider than the power poles. He is concerned that residents will be surprised and ask why the Village is working on their property. Trustee LaDuc asked if there will be more public information meetings scheduled and Kris said that alignment feedback should be available by September and a meeting could then be scheduled.

Richard Coseo, Police Chief – Chief Coseo reported that youths behind the Municipal Building continue to be a problem and groups frequently move down to the Gazebo late at night. Problems include: picnic table is repeatedly moved to private property, litter, foul language, and recent damage to a sign. Police have been breaking up the group and many youths are from outside the Village. Mayor Battista said that Chief Coseo is breaking up the groups and the DPW is cleaning up the trash. The Village Board said to call in the Sheriff Department and State Troopers if staffing is a problem. The DPW is going to pour a pad and anchor down the picnic table. Signage was discussed and Lonny said that signs at the Gazebo have been removed as soon as they are put up. Deputy Mayor Daly made a motion to place signs at Stoodley Park restricting use to young children and other signs for littering; Trustee Frechette seconded the motion. Vote 5 Ayes (Boulton, Frechette, LaDuc, Daly, Battista) 0 Nays. Lonny will need the wording for the signs.

Connie Barone, NYS Battlefield Park – Connie added that the Battlefield was damaged by some very offensive graffiti on the previous Wednesday or Thursday night. She thanked the Village for the July 4th police coverage and thought that it was a successful event. The American Girl author event had over six hundred people in attendance and she is working on the Battlefield event for the first weekend in August. Mayor Battista thanked Connie for all of her work on the July 4th fireworks.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment Session opened at 7:59 pm.

George McCulloch, Bayview Place and Kingston said that he misspoke earlier and would like the Heritage Area Committee to contact the Dioceses about opening Christ Church to the public on a weekly basis during the summer.

Connie Barone, Bayview Place, said that she had previously asked about the stone water tower at Madison Barracks and hopes that the Village has been in contact with the owners. She commented that she is still waiting for a response on her request to have the Village accept the remaining end of Barn

Alley. Connie asked why the new roof on the Pickering Beach Museum is not a historically correct roof.

Eric Constance, West Washington Street mentioned the Stoodley resurfacing and building grant and its closeout. He also asked about the grants for Fort Pike and the Visitor Center. Eric also commented that he does not want to see all no parking signs in the Village.

Lonny Reinhardt, Dodge Avenue said that the exact same roof was on the Pickering Beach Museum and as there were no comments, he had the same one put on again. He also mentioned that there is off-street parking behind some of the businesses and there are signs that direct patrons to other parking areas. A sign on the Lake Ontario Playhouse directs people to St. Andrews Church and behind the Harbor Master building for overflow parking.

Public Comment Session closed at 8:05 pm.

Trustee Frechette made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 pm; Trustee LaDuc seconded the motion. Vote 5 Ayes (Boulton, LaDuc, Frechette, Daly, Battista) 0 Nays.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally W. Daly
Village Clerk